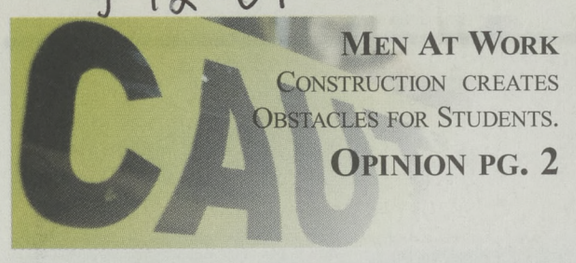
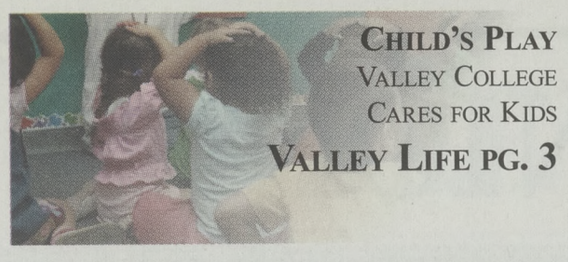
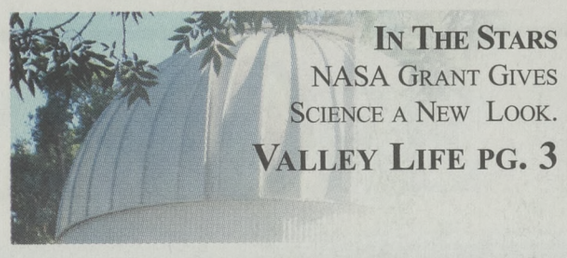
9-12-07



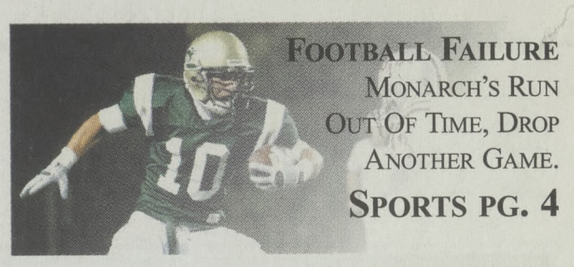
MEN AT WORK
CONSTRUCTION CREATES OBSTACLES FOR STUDENTS.
OPINION PG. 2



CHILD'S PLAY
VALLEY COLLEGE CARES FOR KIDS
VALLEY LIFE PG. 3



IN THE STARS
NASA GRANT GIVES SCIENCE A NEW LOOK.
VALLEY LIFE PG. 3



FOOTBALL FAILURE
MONARCH'S RUN OUT OF TIME, DROP ANOTHER GAME.
SPORTS PG. 4

WWW.LAVC.EDU

WWW.LAVALLEYSTAR.COM

VALLEY STAR

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

VOLUME 67, ISSUE NO. 1 | **SEPTEMBER 12, 2007** | IT'S *YOUR* NEWSPAPER

New Cafeteria Opens its Doors

BY SARAH BISHOP
OPINION EDITOR

Valley College's cafeteria reopened its doors on the first day of the new fall semester, Sept. 4.

After the third company in two years, the Cadillac Grill shut down in the middle of the semester last spring, many students wondered about the latest operation's potential longevity. But the new account manager, Jeff Olin, remains confident.

"The Community College food service is a difficult business," he said. "But we think we have formulas to draw in the student population and make them happy."

Three young men sit together on the first day of school at one of the large round tables just beyond the entrance to the latest incarnation of Valley College's cafeteria.

The remains of a burger and fries lay in a swirl of ketchup on a Styrofoam plate. One of the students eyes the racks of candy that serve as a partition for the cafeteria. All of the tables are occupied by 12:30 in the afternoon. This is exactly what account manager Jeff Olin would like to see everyday from now on.

Integrated Support Solutions Inc., the company now operating the cafeteria, already runs food services for four other Los Angeles Community Colleges: College of the Canyons, Ventura, Moorpark and Oxnard, as well as for some local hospitals. ISSI's previous experience appealed to Valley College's administration.

"There's a lot that indicates they should succeed," said Assistant Vice President of Admission Services Raul Gonzalez. "They have 23 other locations where they're operating food service operations, such as college cafeterias."

ISSI won the bid to rent the space, less than a month before school resumed this semester, beating out two other companies that did not meet the requirements. Olin explained that it was a scramble to get up and running for the Sept. 4 deadline/first day.

"We opened up bare bones," he said, "but every day something new is going to be happening."

These new things, like the Chinese food and pizza and pasta stations, as well as payment options beyond cash are what many of the students and staff are waiting for. In the mean time, the reviews on what is available have varied.

Polina Rakova, a political science major, said she was very unhappy with the prices.

"I paid $9.20 for a small sandwich, fries and water," she said, "Fifty cents for three small cucumber [slices]."

Her fellow political science major, Dilyana Valeva was more amicable.

"It seems to be getting better from the last place," she said. "It has more choices, but the food is expensive."

Speech Professor Josh Miller, while understanding that ISSI had not had much time to set up, could not help being a bit disappointed with his turkey sandwich.

He said, "The reason I came here today was I heard they do a great job at College of the Canyons, that the food is excellent. I'm sure they'll figure it out."

Olin plans to have the missing stations as well as credit card machines in service within two weeks. He hopes that the students and staff will be patient while they work out the kinks.

He asks that the college community give them a chance. "I think they'll be pleasantly surprised," Olin said. "We plan to be here for the long haul."

PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

MEET THE NEW BOSS- Jeff Olin, 58, the account manager for the Valley College Food Court, poses in the space formally occupied by the Cadillac Grill.

Enrollment up for Fall Term

BY ASTRID SEIPELT
STAFF WRITER

Enrollment at Valley College has risen almost five percent since Fall 2006, according to the Los Angeles Community College District, making it difficult for some students to add classes, but increasing funds for the school.

16,990 students are attending Valley in the fall, an increase from 16,206 students at the same time last year. Valley is not the only college to experience growth in the past year, with the college district as a whole seeing a 6.8% rise in total enrollment.

Valley's Public Relations Specialist Jennifer Fong, believes that the increased enrollment is due to the combination of a strengthening economy and the college's more widespread advertising campaign.

"While the economy is weak, people are more concerned with making ends meet," said Fong. "When the economy begins to strengthen, people are more likely to take classes."

She also noted that Valley has marketed itself more strongly to prospective students for the fall semester, with advertising on local bus stops, cable television and various fliers being mailed throughout the area.

Florentino Manzano, dean of enrollment management, is happy with the growth in student numbers, but notes that the college has a way to go before reaching its goals.

"In 2002, we had over 19,000 students on campus, and we have a team who are working to get enrollment back up to this level," said Manzano. "We will do this by changing the class schedule to offer high demand classes at peak times, improving student services, and improving the retention rate of continuing students."

The school is also hoping that the construction of the Allied Heath Centre, as well as the extensive renovations of the college will boost student numbers.

Dennis Reed, dean of fine, performing and media arts, has taught at Valley for 27 years and has seen enrollment numbers vary over time.

"The enrollments, they'll fluctuate…We go through periods, some semesters, they'll drop for a bit and then it's back up," he said.

While a growth in the student body is a plus for the college, it can cause headaches for students attempting to enroll in classes or find parking.

Popular classes such as Math, English, Health and Foreign Languages filled weeks before fall semester began. High school student Dierik Gonzalez, 16, experienced this first hand when he was unable to enroll in the Spanish class he needed.

How to Save Money on Books

BY MARISSA MEYER
STAFF WRITER

Although students find it convenient to buy new and used books at the bookstore, some students are looking for cheaper alternatives.

Rita Meyerkova, a political science major at Valley, described her experience at the bookstore "You have to wait in two lines," she said. "There is one to check in your bag and one to purchase the books. It takes a lot of time."

Meyerkova said it was more convenient for her to go to www.amazon.com where she purchased her textbooks in a matter of minutes and they would be shipped to her in two days. She paid less than half of what the bookstore sold the same books for. She explained, "My political science book only cost me $5 online and in the bookstore they are selling it for $79."

Amazon is only one of a few websites students can use to purchase books. There are other sites such as Half.com, Barnesandnobles.com, and eCampus.com.

However, if a student doesn't have access to the internet, there is another option. Valley's Associated Student Union offers a book exchange program where students can buy, sell and trade books with other students.

There are boards in Monarch Square where you can find books being sold. The book exchange is being held now through September 8th from 7am. to 8pm; from Sept. 9th until the end of the semester, the book exchange will continue in the Campus Center halls.

PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

REACHING FOR KNOWLEDGE - Valley College student Daisy Haro, 20, an anthropology major, reaches for one of the books she'll need for the fall semester.

"ASU is meant to give students the opportunity to sell and trade books because the bookstore didn't give a lot of money back," said Lupe Burgara, the ASU secretary from 2006 to 2007. "The Board benefited students by introducing places for more affordable books."

There are ways to get books for an affordable price. Websites and ASU have provided solutions for students who need to save money and time.

Financial Aid Underused by Students

BY SARAH BISHOP
OPINION EDITOR

While Financial Aid remains widely available, few Valley College students take full advantage of it.

During the last academic year, only 3,400 out of almost 17,000 students received a Federal Pell Grant. Yet, according to the American Council on Education, 53 percent of two-year college students in America acquire financial aid in the form of grants at an average amount of $3,362.

"There are some groups [of students] who are really in the pipeline," said Barbara Ralston, director of financial aid, "And you have other populations that are really under served."

The California State legislature found that California Community Colleges in general get a significantly lower amount of funds from Federal Pell Grants than the national average without any evidence that the students in California's community college system need less money.

"It's also coming into play that it's becoming sort of a stigma to apply for financial aid," Ralston said. "We have to be able to break that barrier. To educate that financial aid is not a handout its really here to help you."

Money given to students in the form of grants or scholarships does not have to be repaid, and while sometimes lines and paperwork can be frustrating, some Valley students do feel it is worth the effort.

"It's a good opportunity for those who need it," said Joanna Marcos, a 22-year-old student while waiting in line in Monarch Hall to speak to a financial aid advisor. "[Students should] take advantage of it if it's there for them."

Ralston agrees. "There is no reason why any student should not apply for financial aid," she said. "Students look at the application and they think 'oh my god' so we really try to get the information out that the PC labs are available."

Valley College's financial aid office offers help to students with questions or problems with forms. The office also provides a FAFSA worksheet and staff to assist with the online application process, which usually takes about 15 minutes.

Still, some students think that they will not qualify or have other means of paying for their classes. "I never really needed to worry about it," said 19-year-old Josh Davis, "I knew my parents could take care of it."

PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

FINANCIAL AID - Alex Entezami, 27, a criminal justice major, gets help applying for federal student aid. Monarch Hall is the Financial Aid office's temporary headquarters.

But with the cost of books constantly increasing combined with the cost of living in California, other students feel an economic strain.

Jennifer Gonzalez, a social work major, said, "I applied in 2005 and found out I didn't qualify because I make too much." She argues that even if someone makes money, it does not mean she should not be considered for grants.

"I have bills," Gonzalez said, "They made those standards for those just coming out of high school. They should think about those who work also."

But ways exist to change a students' status and the financial aid office can assist those who perhaps could not qualify in the past, but may now. The Financial Aid office can use professional judgment on a case by case basis that will allow these students to use projected income to apply instead of their previous year's tax information.

The financial aid office is open from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday.

Visit us on the World Wide Web
LAValleyStar.com

Cutting Through Yellow Tape

BY BRAD TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to Valley College, also known as home of endless construction, brought to you by the good folks who make yellow caution tape and Miracle Grow plant food. Looking around campus it appears as though Valley is recovering from some horrible disaster, but really the school is still working on its major remodel and it seems as if students and faculty alike will be the ones needing repair by the time work is finished.

As I write this piece I am sitting in the "new" Valley Star newsroom, where in the midst of a heat wave there is no air conditioning and the windows do not open. Boxes that were packed before summer still remain sealed and file cabinets have found new homes in other rooms.

If you were to see the numerous ads on TV about Valley (or her sister schools) you would see students excited to attend class, and talking about how Valley College prepares them for the future. You would also notice the athletic girl running on the new track commenting on how good the school looks now. I think that girl needs glasses and a better agent.

What I saw on the first day of the fall semester were endless warning signs, teachers confused about what rooms their classes were now in and where all their equipment was, and bewildered students who I think had a much different idea of what to expect from a newly remodeled campus.

To be fair, things are leaps and bounds ahead of last year when giant trenches blocked pathways and there seemed to be more construction workers than students. But with attendance on the upswing and rumors of budget cutbacks it becomes even more important to have a safe and stable learning environment for both new and returning students.

I am sure that the Valley College of tomorrow will be beautiful and modern, and students will walk the pathways without seeing red danger tape over gaping areas, but right now I am expecting Oprah to show up to survey the devastation or for Angelina Jolie to come try and adopt me.

VALLEY COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION

JONATHAN GIBBY / VALLEY STAR PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

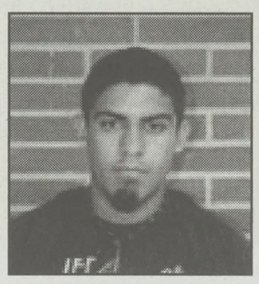
CampusView

How are the renovations affecting you?

PHOTOS BY JUAN ROBLES

"I had an art class and we had to wait an hour after the class started because the teacher said the classroom had to be cleaned up because he said it was all messy."
-Ashley Jimenez, 18
undeclared

"It's a bit difficult going around the buildings sometimes, I'm scared something might fall on me. But, other than that it's been ok I just walk around, go a bit further.."
-Erendira Cisneros, 18
Biology



"It's kind of distracting a little bit because I hear all the construction going on and I have a class right next to it, It's distracting when I'm trying to pay attention to the professor. "
-Robert Robleda, 19
Business

"I think it's a pain. But I like that they're trying to expand the school and I think that's really good for the future college students and that it will attract more students. "
-Sophia Portier, 20
undeclared

Hypocrisy and Homophobia Run Rampant in the Republican Party

BY KRISTEN BECKER
EDITOR IN CHIEF

When deciding which candidate to support in an election, voters consider many issues: trustworthiness, reliability and the candidate's views on the voter's pet issues may be some. Now, apparently, it is imperative that voters also consider the candidate's sexual orientation.

When the news broke that Sen. Larry Craig (R-Idaho) had plead guilty to charges of disorderly conduct after being arrested for allegedly trying to solicit an undercover police officer in a restroom in the Minneapolis/ St. Paul airport, Craig was promptly denounced by his fellow party members and announced his resignation on Sept. 1.

Although Craig is not the only Republican politician embroiled in a sex scandal in Washington, he is the one who suffered for it.

David Vitter, his colleague from Louisiana, admitted in July to committing "a very serious sin in [his] past." This admission came after his phone number was discovered in the phone records of Deborah Jeane Palfrey, the "DC Madam" who ran what the Department of Justice described as a prostitution ring.

Unlike Craig, the Louisiana senator received the support of his fellow Republicans and according to the Times-Picayune, "members of the Senate GOP caucus gave [Vitter] a standing ovation upon his return to the Capitol after he confirmed it was his phone number on the list."

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) explained the difference between the two situations. "No charges have been made" in Vitter's case, he said. He avoided the most obvious difference – Craig was caught in a compromising situation with another man while Vitter's confession implied indiscretions with female prostitutes.

In a Republican Party that has appointed itself as the champion of "family values," a scandal involving a man and a woman is acceptable, but one involving a man and a man must be condemned and the accused suitably punished.

Tom Delay, the example of integrity and honesty who had to resign his seat in the House because he was indicted on charges of misusing campaign funds bragged about the GOP's high moral standards. He told Matt Lauer on The Today Show, "You see the Democrats re-elect the people with their problems. Republicans kick them out. If you look at what's going on, it's how you handle it as a party."

Although Craig's apparent attempt to pick men up in a public restroom shows he used questionable judgment, he should not be forced to resign.

Accusations of homosexuality are not reason enough to merit a resignation from public office. A politician's sexual orientation says nothing about that person's ability to be an effective leader.

Leona Helmsley Leaves a Troubled Fortune

BY ASTRID SEIPELT
STAFF WRITER

In almost every household across the country, you will find someone who cherishes their pet. I myself have a kitten that I completely adore. Pets of all shapes and sizes are our companions, and sometimes we go as far to call them our 'children'. But as much as I love my own pet, I wouldn't go as far to leave it millions of dollars, such as property tycoon Leona Helmsley did when she passed away last month – leaving a whopping $12 million trust fund to her White Maltese, Trouble.

In bequeathing her funds to man's best friend, this New York "Queen of Mean" has caused more trouble than good, cutting two grandchildren out of her will entirely, and leaving only a comparably paltry amount for her grandchildren and various other people close to her. Further, those receiving the funds must follow her instructions to the letter, or risk not getting a dime. Her own brother Alvin is potentially walking away from more than $10 million in cash and trusts, all because he is not inclined to care for her beloved pet.

Most humans, let alone animals, cannot say that they have $12 million dollars to live in the lap of luxury. However, there seems to be more people who are inclined to leave their assets to their furry friends, rather than family. In 2003, actress Drew Barrymore decided to leave her $3 million dollar house to her dog Flossie, after being alerted to a house fire in the middle of the night.

Another spoiled dog, Frankie the Chihuahua, received a share in a $5 million San Diego home when his owner died. He won't be alone though – he also lives with two felines. While these cases are extreme, it is legal in 39 states to leave such gifts to pets, though most people just request that the animal goes to a close friend or relative.

I don't see the sense in leaving a trust for somebody who has no way of using it. As much as I have loved past and current pets, I would never leave money to a being that can't even operate its own bank account. Helmsley had a reported fortune between 4 to 8 billion dollars at the end of her life; the money she left for Trouble could have easily gone to a good cause, such as a local animal shelter, or even to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Organizations such as these are always in need of extra financial support, and her loved ones could rest assured that her money was doing some good in the world.

Trouble will have a dogfight on her hands if she wants to keep her inheritance – an ex-employee is attempting to sue for damages after the pampered pooch bit her while she worked in Helmsley's Manhattan apartment, and the family looks set to contest the will. While our pets deserve to be loved and looked after, the tale of Trouble is evidence that people can go too far.

Remembering 9/11

BY VALLEY STAR STAFF

Americans have written books, produced movies, constructed memorials, and marked Sept. 11 as a day they will always remember.

And while it is always appropriate on this kind of anniversary to remember the loss, perhaps it is also important to think on the lessons we could have learned or what new knowledge we might glean.

The following quotes, while not necessarily made directly about Sept. 11, can apply to the type of introspection that that day deserved.

"What difference does it make to the dead, the orphans, and the homeless, whether the mad destruction is wrought under the name of totalitarianism or the holy name of liberty and democracy?"

-Mahatma Gandhi

"Grief and tragedy and hatred are only for a time. Goodness, remembrance and love have no end, and the Lord of life holds all who die and all who mourn."

-George W. Bush

"Violence is the first refuge of the incompetence."

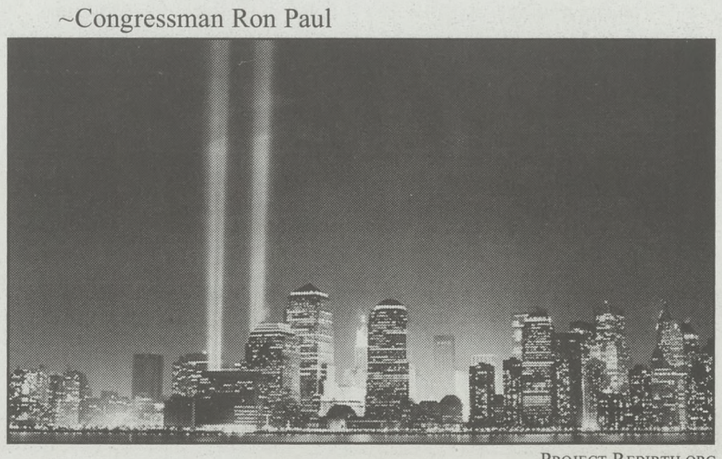
-Issac Asimov

"All men are brothers, like the seas throughout the world; So why do winds and waves clash so fiercely everywhere?"

-Emperor Hirochito

Setting a good example is a far better way to spread ideals than through force of arms.

~Congressman Ron Paul



PROJECT REBIRTH.ORG

WEDNESDAY TO TUESDAY

Thursday, Sept. 13

Writing Center Workshop
MS Word Basics
4 p.m.
H100

Friday, Sept. 14

Women's Socccer
Oxnard at Valley
4 p.m.

New Theatre Releases:

Mr. Woodcock
Billy Bob Thornton, Sean William Scott, Susan Sarandon

The Valley of Elah
Tommy Lee Jones, Charilze Theron James Franco

The Brave One
Jodie Foster

Eastern Promises
Naomi Watts, Viggo Mortensen

December Boys
Daniel Radcliffe

Saturday, Sept. 15

College Athletics:

Mens Football:
Moorpark at Valley
MonarchStadium
7 p.m.

Cross Country:
Beaver International
Arroyo Verde Park
3 p.m.

Women's Water Polo
El Camino Mini tournament
El Camino College
Time TBA

New CD Releases:

50 Cent- Curtis
Ani DiFranco- Greatest Hits
Film School- Hideout
Black Francis- Bluefinger
The Go! Team- Proof of Youth
Hot Hot Heat- Happiness Ltd.
Kanye West- Graduation

Valley Star Staff

Editor in Chief
Kristen Becker

Photo Editor
Paul Olden

News Editor
Kristen Becker

Opinion Editor
Sarah Bishop

Valley Life/ Sports Editor
Joshua Spence

Layout Editor
Bob Teichmann

Staff Writers

James Bennett
Sheila Koochak
Brad Taylor
Elizeda Beltran
Oscar Chicas
Marissa Meyer
Kim Duran
Jessica Rawstron
Astrid Seipelt
Dennis Alamina
Seth Garcia

Photography Staff

Graciela Salgado
Juan Robles
Johnny Gibby
Van Trieu
Larry

Valley Child Center Lends a Helping Hand

BY ELLIE BELTRAN
STAFF WRITER

Every semester the Child Development Center at Valley College has been making it easier for student-parents to attend college by providing them with child-care assistance while they take classes.

"Other daycares are expensive, but the only thing they [Child Development Center] require is for me to go to school. I would recommend it to everyone, absolutely," said Elizabeth Solozano, a Valley student and mother of two. "I would always see parents with their children near this center, and I would wonder what they were doing here, but I never asked. I finally learned of the program through PACE, and now I have been bringing my son and daughter for two semesters."The Child Development Center offers aid to Valley student-parents year round with pre-school and school-age programs where children from ages 3 to 13 are welcomed.

The center is open to Valley's faculty, staff, and community, but priority is reserved for student-parents.

The days and hours for pre-school are from 7:45 a. m to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The elementary school-age program schedule is Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:30 p.m. to 10:20 p.m., Tuesday from 1:30 p.m. to 10:20 p.m., and Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

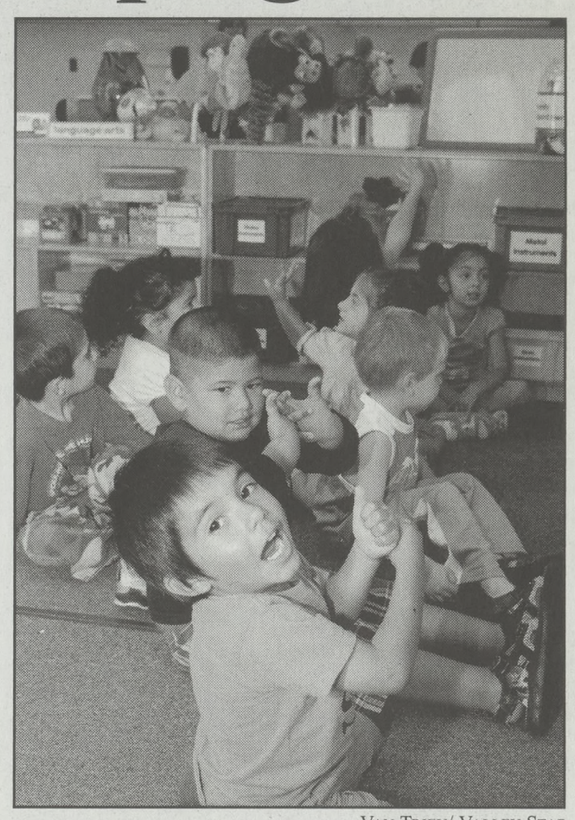
Applications are available and accepted anytime during the year at the Child Development Center, which is situated off Ethel Avenue in the northeastsection of Valley. However, Teplin recommends signing up a year in advance, especially during summer when enrollment skyrockets.

Financial aid is also available for students who qualify based on family size and gross monthly income of family.

Daily activities for children consist of among other things science lessons and literacy programs taught by teachers from Valley's faculty. There is also a fully equipped playground with swings, curved slides leading to a sandbox.

"I just think this center is convenient and friendly; it's just close to college," Gabriela Andazola, a student-parent and child development major at Valley, said. "I can take classes in the morning instead of the evening, and thanks to this center I was able to accept an internship at a daycare."

"Parents express appreciation," said Terry Teplin, director of the Child Development Center, "Otherwise they could not attend school without this facility."



VAN TRIEU/ VALLEY STAR

THE WINNING END - Daniel Aguirre, 4 (foreground) and Billy Carrillo, 3, enjoy their time in Valley's child care center which is located on the eastern of campus.

Planetarium Brings Out Star Power

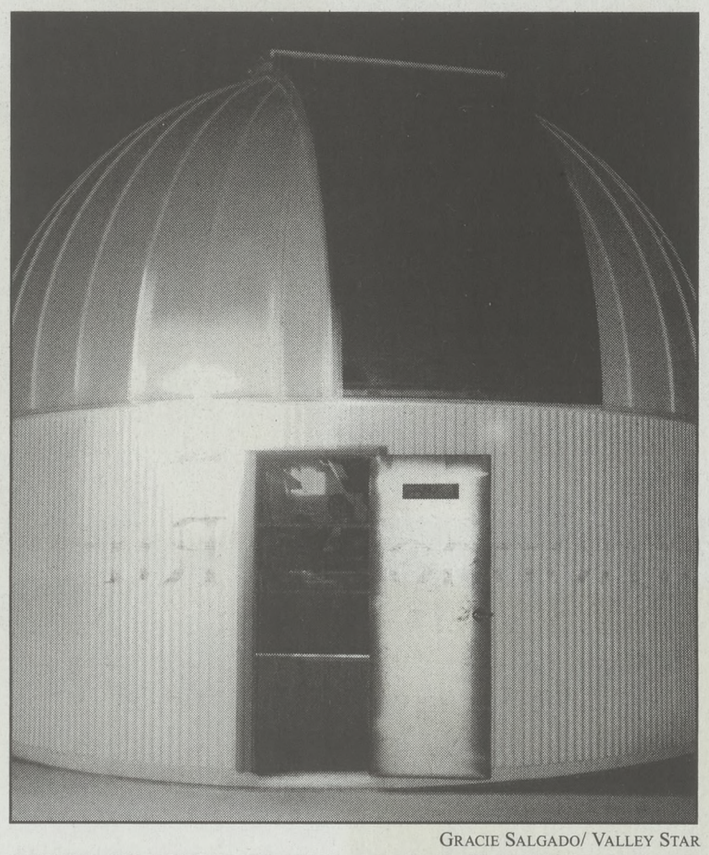
BY JAMES BENNETT
STAFF WRITER

The stars have moved from Hollywood and into the valley. Billions of them are eagerly awaiting the starry-eyed gaze of loving fans right here on campus in our very own planetarium. Leave the flash bulbs at home because here the only lens you'll need is attached to a telescope, no paparazzi allowed.

Thanks to a grant awarded to Valley College by the generous lab-coaters at NASA, Valley College students and community residents alike have been afforded the opportunity to sit under the domed roof of a beautiful planetarium given life by a brand new digital projector and glorious Dolby 5.1 surround sound.

The grant bestowed upon Valley is the "Curriculum Improvement Partnership Award." This was a competitive grant offered to all minority serving institutions, Valley College being a "HSI", or Hispanic Serving Institution based on enrollment. The proposal was to use the grant money to acquire new instructional equipment and expand the Astronomy program, both of which have been executed flawlessly.

"NASA got its money's worth from us!" Valley professor David Falk exclaimed when asked to detail the expenditure of the grant money. The astronomy department has not only purchased a stunning new projector but has also expanded its class offerings with a new Planetary Geology class once a year.



GRACIE SALGADO/ VALLEY STAR

TOWER OF POWER- The Valley College Planetarium is better than ever thanks to a $300,000 grant from NASA.

To fully understand the magnitude of awesome regarding the planetariums new projector some numbers need to be taken into consideration. Valley received $300,000: Two thirds of that went straight to the new projector; so when we do the math like good scientists it becomes apparent that this bad boy is hotter than the surface of a white dwarf.

Completing the divine dome a magnificent 16 inch Celestron telescope resides on the roof of the planetarium, so at the culmination of a students light-speed voyage through the digitally rendered cosmos they can walk upstairs for some bon-a-fide "eye to glass" stellar experiences; which Professor Falk and the rest of the astronomy department emphasize.

The planetarium isn't just for snagging those three lab science units; it's for introducing people to the sciences. The mission of the planetarium reaches farther than the Valley College student body, it's for the community. "We're bringing the stars to you. You don't need to go to Griffith, you can do it right here, in our own community!" Professor Falk triumphantly proclaimed.

For professor Falk, the planetarium is about promoting scientific literacy, and expanding the knowledge of, and love of, science throughout our school and community. "This is important for us, to get people to go into the sciences in general. The first step is to get peoples attention, and that's what [the planetarium] does. It doesn't sit on an ivory tower."

CHAINSAW 101 MAKES THE CUT

BY BRAD TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

If you think you are having a rough first week of school, try putting yourself in the shoes of the would-be actors who took Universal Studios Chainsaw 101 boot camp!

The studio held class for their new recruits to take part in Universal's annual "Halloween Horror Nights" on Tuesday. The hopefuls eagerly grabbed their Poulan 14 inch chainsaws and hit the stage to learn the art of the scare and try to make the cut.

"When I tell people I will be handling a chainsaw they will be very surprised," said actress Keisha Tucker, one of the few women to take the challenge.

The actors were taught by "chainsaw instructors" who had them in groups practicing lock-stepping with their deadly weapons. Scare tactics were also taught to the butchers in training, but the pinnacle had to be the pseudo ballet they performed wielding the saws in the air and swinging them around like a dance partner.

"I think they are gonna be great," said chainsaw instructor Blake Johnson. "Once they get the saw in their hands and they feel the 45 cc's come to life they really get into it."

Johnson is a 12-year veteran of the "Halloween Horror Nights" events and becomes like a little kid when talking about the fun he has teaching the actors and going out to the park to terrify the guests.

"Halloween is my Christmas," said Johnson, who is also a huge horror movie fan. "It gives me the chance to pick up a saw and scare the hell out of people without getting arrested."

"I get to scare people and get paid for it," said actor Dave Fordham. "This is just an incredible atmosphere."

The students and press were treated to the dismemberment of a hapless body, which was in reality a urethane foam dummy. This was done while stunt coordinator Pat Millicano gave helpful hints on how to achieve maximum gore.

"Innards get you the most blood," said Millicano as he cut into the "victim" causing an eruption of red liquid.

Throughout the training the thirty hopefuls were fitted with various bloody smocks, pigs masks and variously grotesque accessories. And all of this happened while the melody of chainsaws filled the auditorium.

If you are brave enough to face these folks then be sure to go Universal Studios "Halloween Horror Nights" beginning October 5th through October 31st. This year boasts Freddy Krueger, Jason Voorhees and Leatherface as well as a host of scare-actors just dying for their big break.

Pearl Polishes off Career After 20 Years at Valley

VAN TRIEU/ VALLEY STAR

A Pearl of A Woman - Eileen Pearl, Senior Assistance at Los Angeles Valley College Foundation is retiring in October after 20 years of service.

BY BRAD TAYLOR
STAFF WRITER

Eileen Pearl does not sit behind her desk as much as she commands from it. Answering phone calls, fielding students' questions and organizing numerous events all while wearing a smile that would befit a Disney princess, but soon this Valley College icon will be beginning her own happily ever after.

After 20 years at Valley, Pearl will be retiring from her position as senior office assistant in the community relations department and her other roles such as den mother, advice giver, cheerleader and friend.

"She is the first face you see when you come to the office," said Raul Castillo, the executive director of community relations . "I am going to miss her and I love her."

Sitting in the Patrons office I heard universal praise for Eileen as well wishers began stopping by asking about her October 3rd retirement luncheon which takes place at 12:00 p.m. in Monarch Hall. And they were eager to clear their schedules to honor their colleague.

"She is fabulous," said Dr. Zucker. "We are going to miss her like you wouldn't believe."

Pearl has been a part of many campus committees that include administration hiring and an equal opportunity representative. She has also met numerous celebrities on campus like Bill Clinton, Martin Sheen and Sean Astin.

"The people," said Pearl on what she will miss most about Valley. "I have made some wonderful friends, and the board members have been fantastic to me over the years."

Pearl is a widower with two sons, one of whom is a Valley college alum. And when she speaks about her family, she begins to tear up as she points out their pictures on her office shelf.

The auburn haired office matriarch urges students to be as involved as possible on campus and meet new people to get insight into how the school is run and everything available to them.

"It is so easy to get lost on a big campus," she says. "But when you are involved it makes life easier and more rewarding."

But now, PearlI is ready to "sit back and smell the roses" while taking on new challenges outside of Valley as well as spending some quality time with her family. And she will continue to be active in a community that still needs her special brand of magic.

LAVC SCORES

Football vs. Desert
(L 49-17) 9/1/07
vs. Antelope Valley
(L 14-7) 9/8/07
Football Record: 0-2

(M) Water Polo vs. El Camino
(L 5-2)
(M) Water Polo Record: 0-1

(W) Water Polo vs. Mt. SAC
(L 10-16) 9/21-22/07
vs. Grossmont
(L 12-16) 9/21-22/07
vs. Santa Ana
(W 10-7) 9/21-22/07
vs. Chaffey
(L 14-15) 9/21-22/07
(W) Water Polo Record: 1-3

(W) Soccer vs. San Diego City
(W 5-1) 8/31/07
vs. Sacramento City
(L 1-3) 9/1/07
vs. Hartnell
(W 5-4) 9/2/07
(W) Water Polo Record: 2-1

X-Country - Ventura Invit.

Women		
Elva Lopez	23:21	26th
Erika Lopez	24:24	38th
Martha Alvarado	25:13	41st
Kathy Rodriguez	28:01	69th
Rebecca Sanders	DNF	

Men		
Andrew Salg	22:34	7th
German Sanchez	24:20	46th
German Cruz	25:07	67th
Frank Rodriguez	25:10	68th
Miguel Galvez	25:57	85th
Jordan Hill	26:39	96th
Agustin Rios	26:55	100th
Luis Hernandez	26:56	101st
Carlos Parraguirre	27:02	105th
Carlos Paredes	28:20	113th
Brian Ramirez	30:14	124th
Edward Martinez	33:04	128th
Nestor Espinoza	34:37	130th
Japjit Grewal	35:01	131st

LAVC SCHEDULE

Available online at the Los Angeles Valley College Athletics site.

lavc.edu/athletics.htm

$100 - $300 Daily
Become A Certified
BARTENDER!
40 Hour Course * Hands On Training
Job Placement * Interest-Free Payment Plans
National Bartenders School
(818) 783-0300
www.bartendingworld.com

WSC FOOTBALL

Marauders Double-Up Monarchs

■ **Valley record drops to 0-2.**

BY DENNIS ALAMINA
STAFF WRITER

LANCASTER — With the Valley College Monarchs using a single set quarterback this week against the Antelope Valley Marauders compared to the two-pronged quarterback attack Valley used last week in the 48- 17 loss to College of the Deserts, Coach Jimmy Sims and the Monarchs expected a better outcome.

The Monarchs are now 0-2 losing 14-7.

When asked about the game, Coach Sims replied, "Not good enough. We did improve a little bit but we didn't improve that much for the fact that we didn't win and were going into our next game 0-2".

Troy Jackson got the start at quarterback, throwing for 202 yards and a touchdown.

Defensively, Strong Safety Josh Stried made seven tackles with one sack and Linebacker Sione Fale 'Ofa made eight tackles and a sack.

The Monarchs scored first on a 9- yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Alex Ritthamel in the second.

Antelope Valley tied the game at seven with a 12- yard scoring strike with four minutes left in the first half.

Going into the second half with more confidence, Coach Sims decided to unleash Valley's running attack. Running Back Anthony Dickson averaged 4.9 yards per carry with his longest rush attempt going for 33 yards. Dickson ended the game with 78 yards rushing.

Antelope Valley managed to put another touchdown in the end zone early in the third quarter. Now up 14-7, Coach Sims switched up the offensive playbook turning the running game into the passing game. Wide receiver Kenny Kinard averaged 117 yards receiving with a long catch for about 45 yards.

With 14:50 to play in the game, the Antelope Valley defense forced Jackson to fumble the ball. Both the Monarchs and the Marauders exchanged possessions until Fale 'Ofa and the rest of the monarch defense caused Antelope Valley to fumble late in the fourth quarter with 4:05 left in the game.

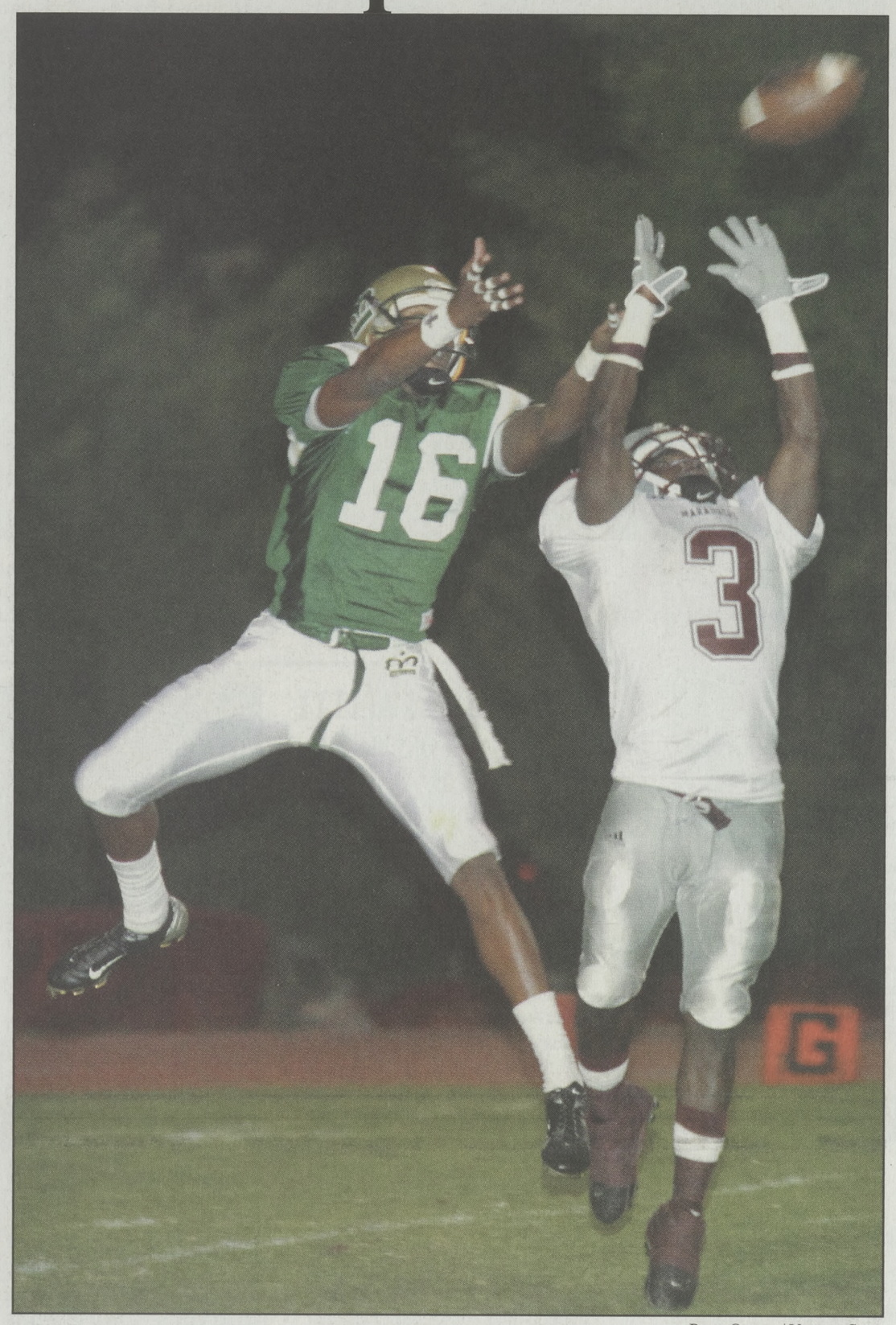
Jackson was able to connect with Kinard on fourth and ten, getting a first down and and potentially tying the game. Ultimately, the Antelope Valley defense held on for the victory.

The Monarchs, now 0-2 will face the Moorpark College Raiders Sept. 15th at Monarch Stadium. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Opponent	Date	Time			
Moorpark**	9/15	7 p.m.	@ East LA*	10/13	6 p.m.
@ Compton**	9/22	7 p.m.	Ventura**	10/20	7 p.m.
Citrus**	9/29	7 p.m.	@ Glendale**	10/27	7 p.m.
BYE	10/6		Santa Monica**	11/3	7 p.m.
			@ Pierce**	11/10	4 p.m.

*Denotes Western State Conference Game
**Denotes Western State Conference Pacific Division Game



PAUL OLDEN / VALLEY STAR

UP IN THE AIR - Valley College freshman wide receiver Cordarol Scales (#16) leaps for a pass over Antelope Valley's (#3) Sam Murphy during a game in Lancaster, Saturday September 8, 2007. The pass was broken up and the Monarchs lost the game, 14-7 to fall to 0-2 on the season.

Reis Completes Another Chapter

■ **Tech department chairman is also a prolific writer.**

BY OSCAR CHICAS
STAFF WRITER

The year is 1951, the New York Yankees have won their 14th World Series title, and a ten-year-old boy named Ron Reis and his family has decided to relocate to the San Fernando Valley, leaving the windy city for greener pastures.

Reis attended Van Nuys High School, where he was a member of the track & field team. After graduating he attended Valley College where he received his associate's degree in 1961. He joined the Peace Corps for two years and was stationed in Malaysia. Once his tour of duty had finished, Mr. Reis returned to home and school, where he received a bachelor's degree in industrial technology and a master's in social science from Cal Sate Los Angeles.

In addition to being the chairman of the technology department at Valley College, Reis, has also written 13 books. Among the list include the biographies of U.S. Navy Lieutenant Eugene Clark and famed biologist Jonas Salk. Reis recently released a biography called "Lou Gehrig" about the baseball legend. This latest biography is the first of three sports biographies. The latter are based on Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio.

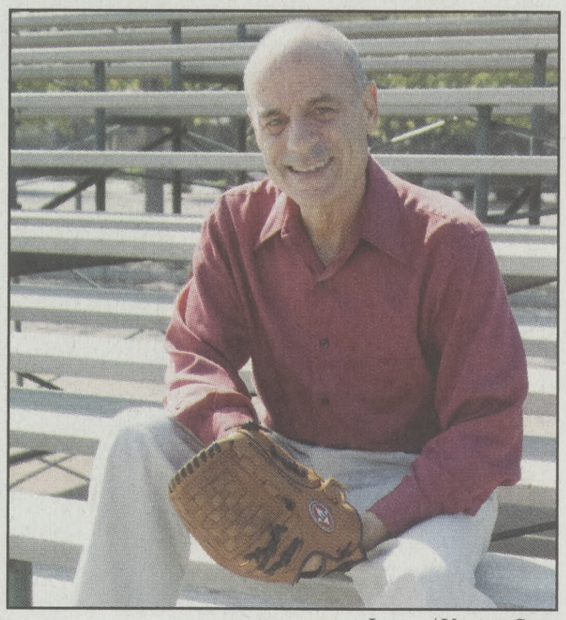
The idea for writing a book on Lou Gehrig surfaced three years ago after Reis's editor at Chelsea Publishers, Christina Poolos, pitched him the idea.

"We had seen that the first publishing of the Gehrig biography had done well, so we wanted to revamp it and I chose Ron to write it because he is a great writer who can make any subject sound compelling," Poolos said.

When working on the Gehrig bio, Reis contacted his friend Dale Hicks and they attended a Yankees/Angles game to become more acquainted with the atmosphere of the sport.

Reis has always had an interest in baseball, even if he didn't understand some aspects of the game.

"I don't want to write about what I know, I want to write about what I want to know," said Reis.



LARRY / VALLEY STAR

A MIGHTY PEN - Valley College professor Ron Reis has written 13 books, including one on Lou Gehrig, which is part of a series of books called "Baseball Superstars."

"That's who Ron is," stated Hicks after divulging some insight on his friend.

"He is an exceptional writer who is always willing to go that extra mile to do his homework. When he was writing the Ted Williams book he actually drove to Williams' childhood home in San Diego."

Reis' secret to writing his books, spending time with his family, and teaching has been by not watching TV. According to Reis you can save forty hours a week by doing this.

Which in Reis' case means another book in the works, but he is reluctant to reveal its topic, but hinted at a social commentary on American history.

"If there is one thing I want students to take from this is, I was a "C" student at Valley, and as I look at my students who are struggling I wonder what they will accomplish, because you never know with students. They always have a way of surprising you. So keep on swinging."

Come visit our new and exciting destination dormshop

Create a Dorm Wishlist before heading off to campus
It's an easy way to equip the perfect dorm room
• 20% completion program thru 9/30/07! Receive 20% off everything remaining on your Wishlist.
(May not be combined with any other offer.)

Your Dorm Checklist

Hit the Sack
__Sheet sets. Twin or Twin XL (2)
__Comforter or quilt (1)
__Down comforter (1)
__Duvet cover (1)
__Blanket (1)
__Bed pillows (2)
__Pillow protectors (2)
__Mattress pad (1)
__Fiberbed/featherbed (1)
__Inflatable Aerobed (1)
__Window/door panels
__Area rug (1)
__Decorative pillows
__Floor cushions
__Throw (1)

Dorm Pre-Req's
__Clock radio (1)
__Night light
__Fan (1)
__Storage boxes (2)
__Extension cords (2)
__Squid multi outlets (2)
__Surge protector
__Batteries
__Door mirror (1)
__Wall hooks
__Frames
__Storage ottoman
__Trash can

Pull an All Nighter
__Desk lamp (1)
__Floor lamp (1)
__Bed rest (1)
__Lap desk (1)

Chaos Control
__Storage trunk or tote (1)
__Under the bed containers (3)
__CD or DVD storage (1)
__Set of 4 bed risers (1)
__Over the door storage (1)
__Shoe rack (1)
__24 hangers (1 Pkg.)
__Mesh cubes
__Bubble crates
__Modular storage shelves
__Drawer organizers (4)
__Storage set (1)
__Duffel bag (1)
__Space bags

Munchie Makers
__Bowls, plates, mugs (4)
__Forks, knives, spoons (4)
__Glassware set (1)
__Cookware set (1)
__Set kitchen utensils (1)
__Bottle/can opener (1)
__Water filtration pitcher (1)
__Replacement filters
__Chip clips/magnetic clips (5)
__Dorm-size microwave (1)
__Dorm-size refrigerator (1)
__Blender (1)
__Toaster oven (1)
__Coffeemaker (1)
__George Foreman grill (1)
__Snack table (1)
__Dish rack
__Travel mugs

Neat n Tidy
__Hand or stick vacuum (1)
__Dish cloths & towels (6)
__Cylinder hamper (1)
__Compact iron (1)
__Drying rack (1)
__Laundry bags (2)
__Lint roller

Student Body Needs
__Towel sets (6)
__Towel bar (1)
__bath towel tower (1)
__Tub mat (1)
__Bath rug (1)
__Shower curtain (1)
__Shower liner (1)
__Shower ring set (1)
__Shower caddy (1)
__Soap holder (1)
__Bath brush and pouf
__Electric toothbrush (1)
__Replacement heads
__Over the door hook (1)
__Magnifying mirror (1)
__Blow dryer (1)
__Body wash & lotion
__Cosmetic organizer (1)
__Tweezers
__Curling iron (1)
__Hair straightener (1)
__Electric razor (1)
__Robe & slippers (1)
__Hair towel & shower wrap
__Shower radio (1)
__Scale
__Electric fragrance diffuser

20% off our everyday low, sale & clearance prices! any single item*
Valid thru Sept. 30, 2007
LINENS-N-THINGS
*One coupon per customer. Valid in-store only. No reproductions. Coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. Sorry, coupon not valid towards the purchase of Capresso, The Sharper Image, Ujoy, Wüsthof, Nautica, All-Clad, J.A. Henckels, Little Giant Ladders, Tempur-Pedic, Godiva Chocolates, AeroGrow, custom windows, Riedel or Linens 'n Things Gift Cards. Cannot be combined with any other coupon or offer. Coupon not valid towards previous purchases and cannot be used with Linens 'n Things credit card first purchase offer. Other restrictions may apply. Please see store or LNT.COM for details.